

**Remarks**

Restriction Requirement/Election of Species

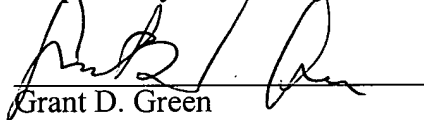
This application is a divisional of copending USSN 10/315,633, filed 10 December 2002, which is a divisional of USSN 09/943,338, filed 30 August 2001, now US 6,518,276. The amendments above cancel claims that were elected in the prior two applications following the restriction requirement entered in '338 on February 11, 2002 and in '633 on July 15, 2003, and add additional claims within the elected group. The claims elected herein correspond to Group II of the 2/11/02 restriction requirement, and (identically) Group I of the 7/15/03 restriction requirement, claims 14-16.

Amendment of claims

The new claims added above are supported in the specification at, for example, Example 20.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for examination, and solicit such action at an early date. If there are any remaining questions, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the numbers provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Grant D. Green

Reg. No. 31,259

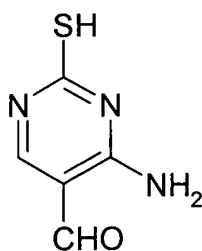
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25 March 2004  
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## Appendix A

### What is claimed:

14. A process for producing a pyrimidine of the formula:



**II-c**

comprising:

- (a) contacting an acetal of the formula  $\text{NC-CH}_2\text{-C(OR}^a\text{)}_2$ , with an alkyl formate of the formula  $\text{HCO}_2\text{R}$  in the presence of a condensation base under conditions sufficient to produce a condensed product; and
- (b) contacting said condensed product with thiourea in the presence of a cyclization base under conditions sufficient to produce said pyrimidine of Formula II-c, wherein each of R and  $\text{R}^a$  is independently alkyl.

15. The process of Claim 14, wherein said condensation base is a tert-butoxide.

16. The process of Claim 14, wherein said cyclization base is an alkoxide.

21. The process of Claim 16, wherein said alkoxide comprises sodium methoxide.

22. The process of Claim 14, wherein said alkyl formate comprises methyl formate.